



# FEMA

**Disclaimer:** The purpose of this briefing is to provide a ***Regional*** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information. To find your local NWS forecast office, go to [www.weather.gov/srh](http://www.weather.gov/srh) and click on the "Weather Forecast Offices" tab and click on the map for your area.

## FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Friday, December 22, 2017  
Issued: 0800 CT

**Day 1 Weather Impacts:** *Heavy rain/flash flooding today into Saturday morning from the ArkLaTex, NW LA into much of AR.*

*Marginal risk of severe storms from NE TX through S AR & N LA; damaging winds and an isolated tornado possible.*

*Light snow or wintry mix possible tonight into early Saturday for OK, the Red River Valley & NW AR.*

**National Weather Service**

*Southern Region Headquarters  
Regional Operations Center  
Fort Worth, TX*



**Prepared by: Jennifer McNatt**  
**817-978-1100 x 147**

# Key Points



## Today and Saturday

- **Strong cold front moves through the Region with showers and thunderstorms ahead of the front and much colder temperatures moving in behind**
  - Areas of heavy rain/flash flooding today into Saturday morning from the ArkLaTex into NW LA and much of AR
  - Marginal risk of severe storms over NE TX through N LA and S AR; damaging winds and an isolated tornado are the main threats
  - Light snow or wintry mix possible over portions of OK, the Red River Valley & NW AR tonight into Saturday morning; little to no accumulations expected but may have a slight impact on busy holiday travel

## Sunday (Christmas Eve)

- Mostly quiet weather across the Region
- Some very light snow possible on Sunday morning over NE portions of the Region; little to no accumulations are expected

## Monday (Christmas Day) - Tuesday

- No significant impacts are expected

# FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

## Dec 22, 2017 through Dec 26, 2017



	FRI	SAT	SUN		TUE
Severe Weather	NE TX, N LA, S AR				
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	NE TX, NW LA, SE OK, AR				
Fire Weather					
Winter	OK, Red River Valley, NW AR (Late)	OK, Red River Valley, NW AR (Early)	NE OK, N AR (early)		
River Flooding					

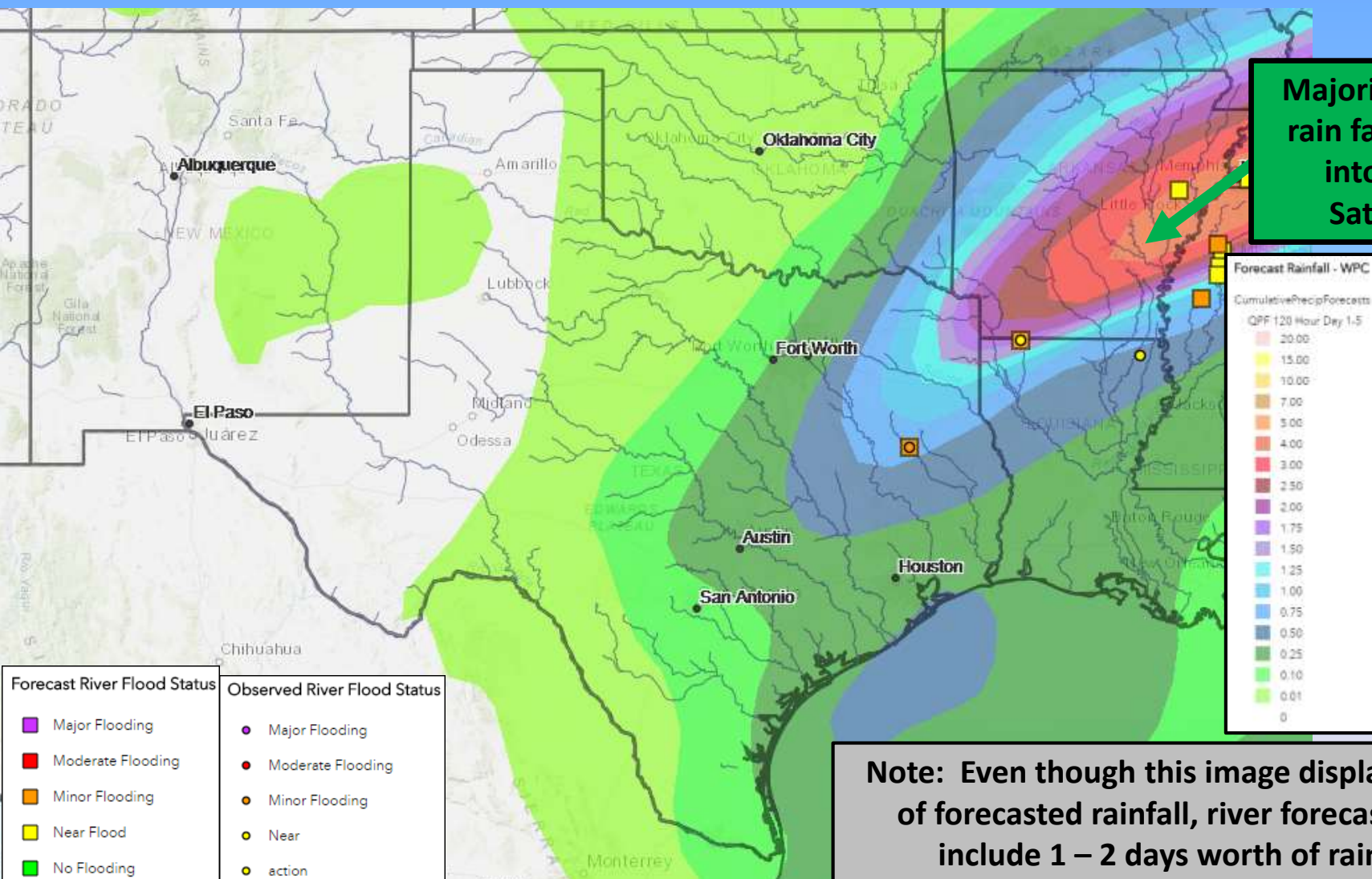
	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

*For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.*



# 5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status

Additional rain over AR today into Saturday morning may produce runoff and minor river flooding.



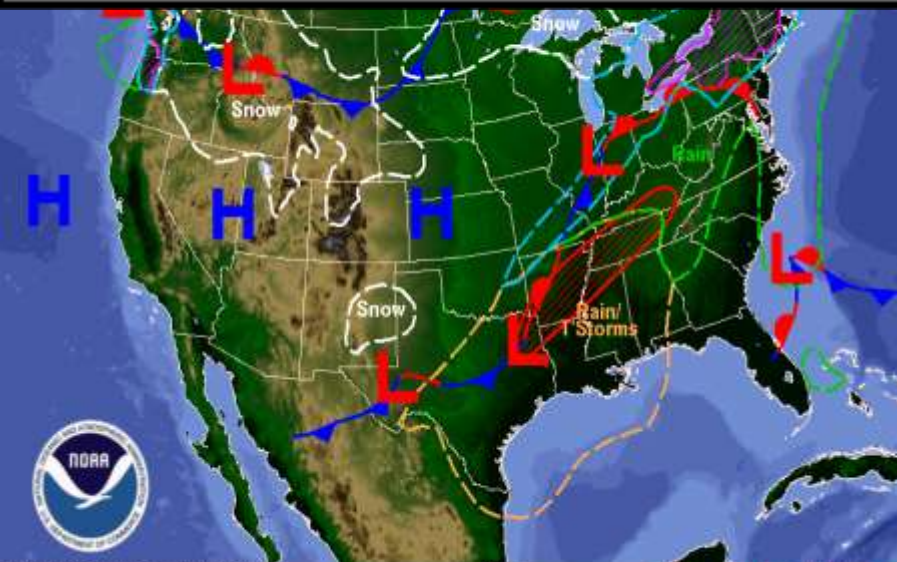
Majority of this rain falls today into early Saturday

Note: Even though this image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1 – 2 days worth of rainfall.

For the latest on river flooding: <http://water.weather.gov/ahps>

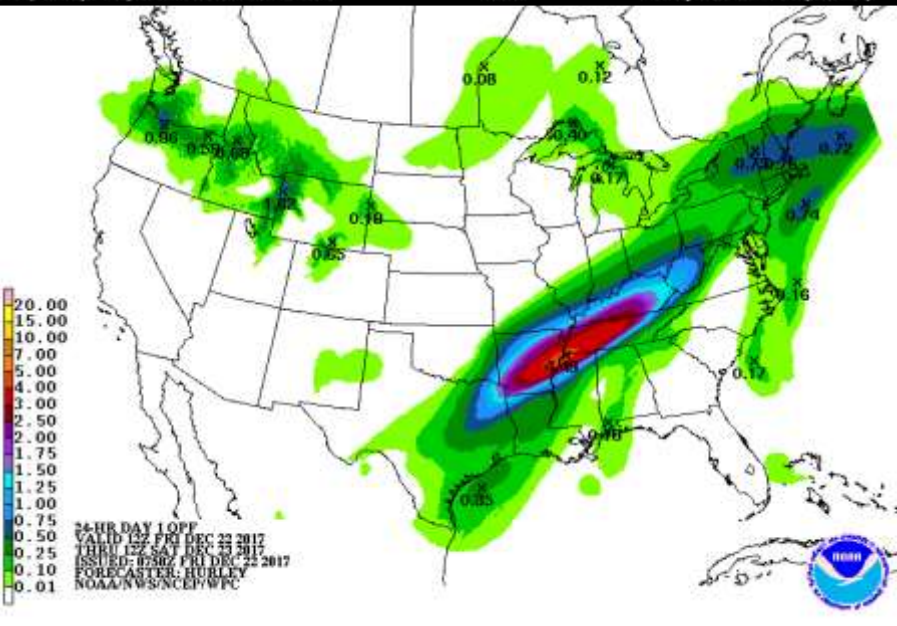


# Today's Weather



**Day 1 National Forecast Chart**  
Valid Fri, Dec 22, 2017, issued 4:11 AM EST  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by Hurley with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain  
Rain and T Storms  
Rain and Snow  
Snow  
Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)  
Severe T Storms Possible (hatched)  
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)  
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)

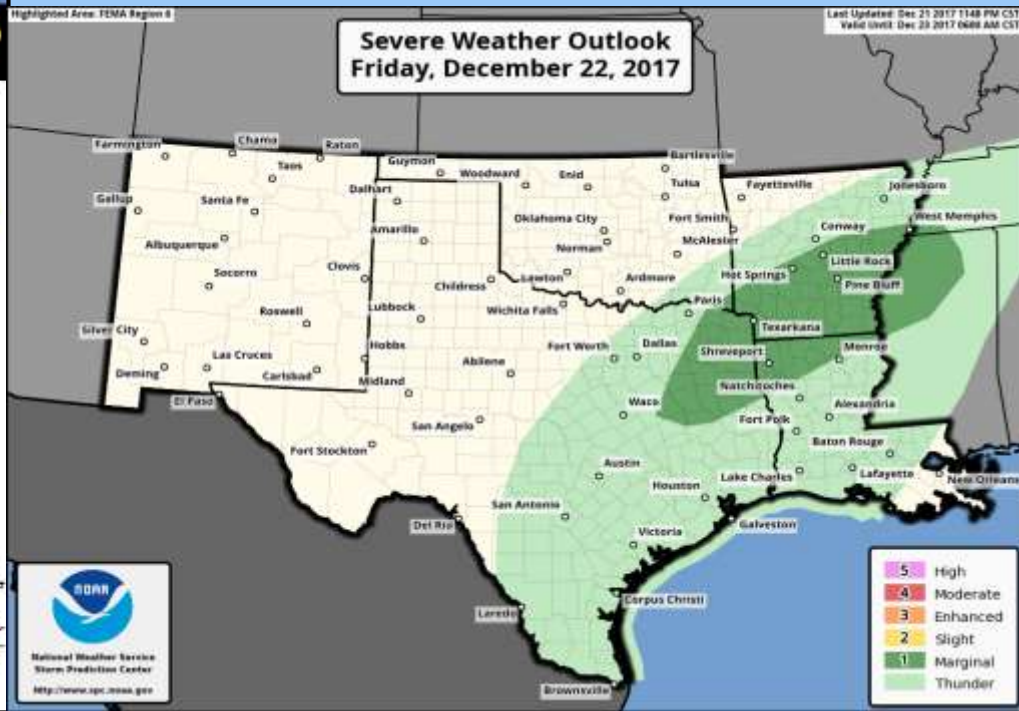


24-HR DAY 1 OPI  
VALID 12Z FRI DEC 22 2017  
THRU 12Z SAT DEC 23 2017  
ISSUED 0730Z FRI DEC 22 2017  
FORECAST BY: HURLEY  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

Areas of heavy rain/flash flooding possible from the ArkLaTex through NW LA and AR.

Marginal risk of severe storms from NE TX through S AR and N LA; strong winds and an isolated tornado possible.

May see some very light snow or wintry mix over portions OK, Red River Valley and NW AR tonight into early Saturday morning; little to no accumulations expected.



**Severe Weather Outlook**  
Friday, December 22, 2017

Last Updated: Dec 21 2017 11:48 PM CST  
Valid until: Dec 23 2017 06:00 AM CST





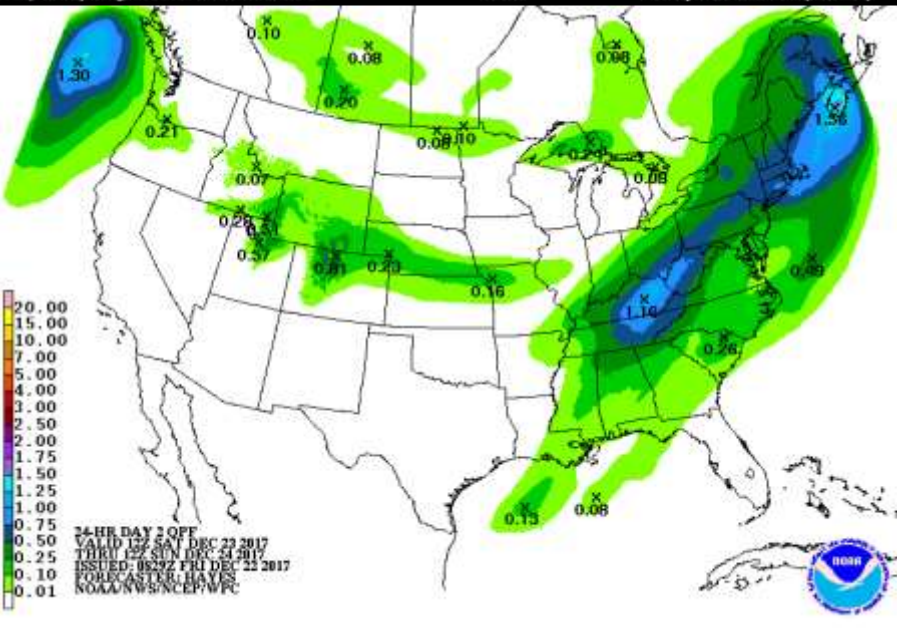
# Tomorrow's Weather



Day 2 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sat, Dec 23, 2017, issued 3:49 AM EST Fri, Dec 22, 2017  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by Kong with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain  
Rain and T'Storms  
Rain and Snow  
Snow  
Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)  
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)  
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)  
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



24-HR DAY 2 OFF  
VALID 12Z SAT DEC 23 2017  
THRU 12Z SUN DEC 24 2017  
ISSUED 0629Z FRI DEC 22 2017  
FORECAST BY NWS  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/NHC

May see some very light snow over NE OK and N AR Saturday night into early Sunday morning; little to no accumulations expected.

Highlighted Area: FEMA Region 8

## Severe Weather Outlook Saturday, December 23, 2017

Last Updated: Dec 23 2017 1042 PM CST  
Valid 0000Z Dec 24 2017 0400 AM CST



NOAA  
National Weather Service  
Storm Prediction Center  
<http://www.spc.noaa.gov>

5 High  
4 Moderate  
3 Enhanced  
2 Slight  
1 Marginal  
Thunder

# Sunday's Weather

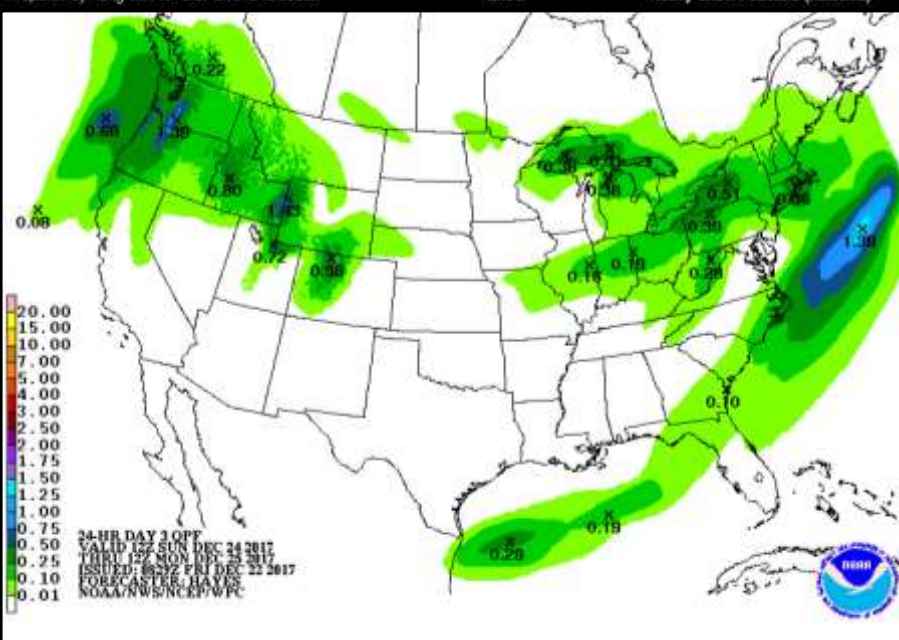


Day 3 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sun, Dec 24, 2017, Issued 4:12 AM EST Fri, Dec 22, 2017  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by Kong with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain  
Rain and T'Storms  
Rain and Snow  
Snow

Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)  
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)  
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)  
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



24-HR DAY 3 QPF  
VALID 12Z SUN DEC 24 2017  
TFRD 12Z MON DEC 25 2017  
FORECAST BY 22Z FRI DEC 22 2017  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/NHC

Quiet weather for most of the Region.

Light snow possible early Sunday morning over  
NE OK/NW AR; little to no accumulations  
expected.

Highlighted Area: FEMA Region 6

## Severe Weather Outlook Sunday, December 24, 2017

Last Updated: Dec 21 2017 11:22 PM CST  
Valid Until: Dec 25 2017 0600 AM CST



NOAA  
National Weather Service  
Storm Prediction Center  
<http://www.spc.noaa.gov>

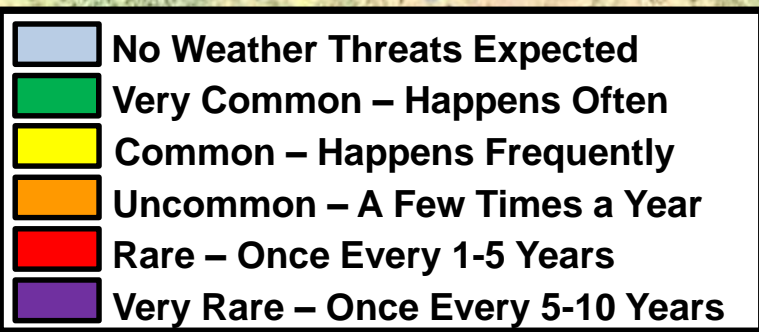


# Day 4-5 Weather Hazards

## *Monday - Tuesday*



**No significant weather impacts expected.**



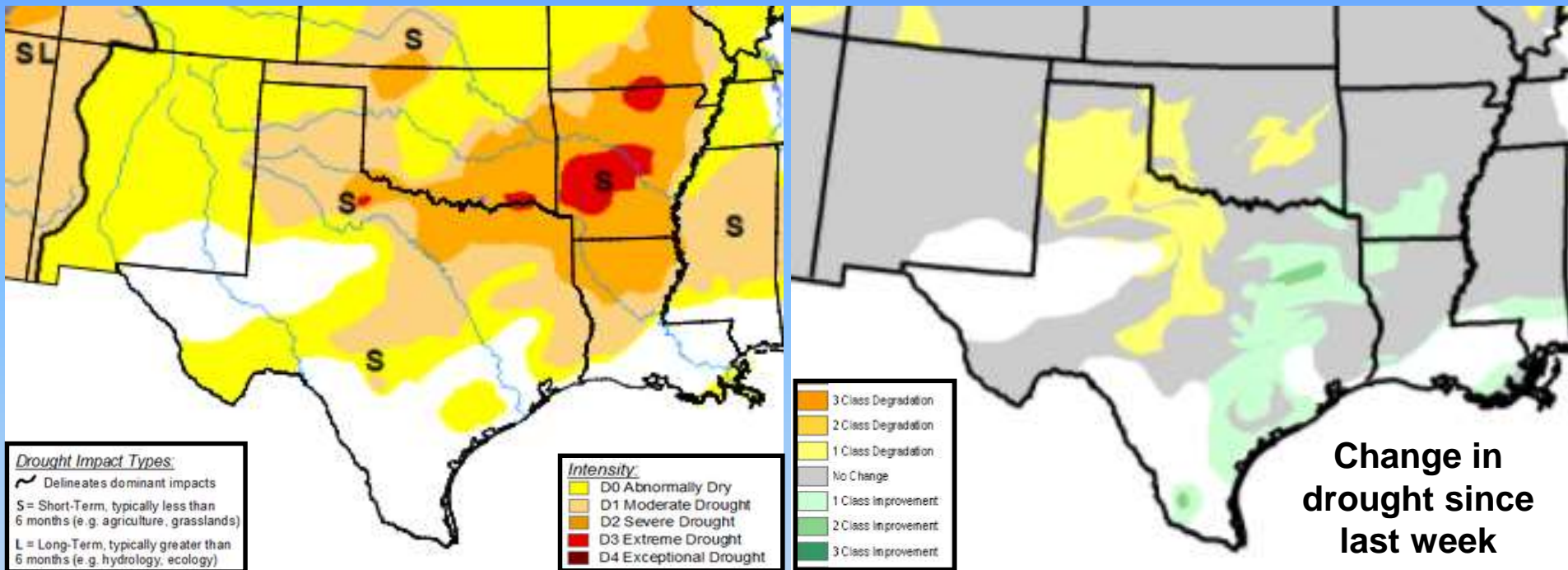
**\*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.**





# Drought Monitor Released December 21, 2017

Data valid as of 6am CST, Tuesday, December 19, 2017



## Drought Conditions (Percent Area) in D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)

State	Current	Last Week	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
Arkansas	25.31%	42.40%	0.00%	0.00%
Louisiana	0.00%	7.07%	0.00%	0.00%
Oklahoma	1.21	3.12	0.00%	3.14%
Texas	0.25%	0.76%	0.00%	0.04%
New Mexico	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

# Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



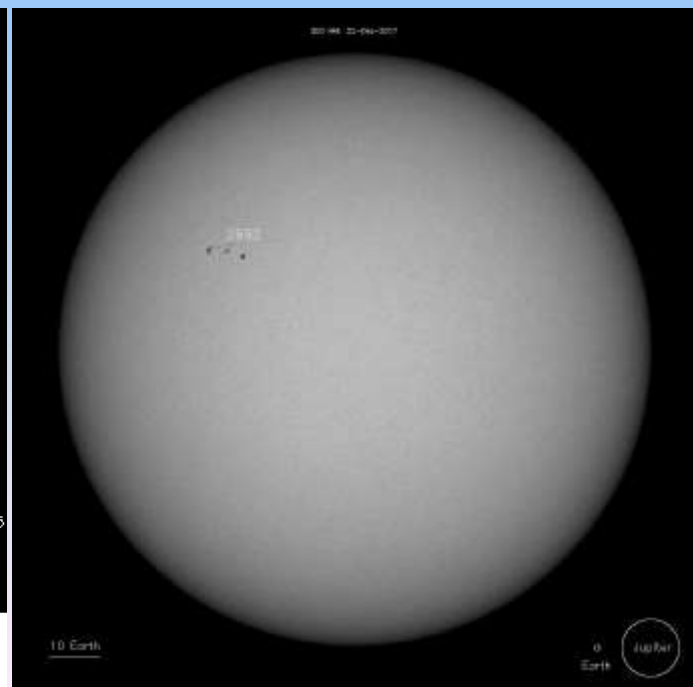
[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)

	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



Normal Proton Background  
NOAA/SWPC Boulder, CO USA





Information provided by:



**National Weather Service**  
**Southern Region Headquarters**  
**Regional Operations Center**  
**Fort Worth, TX**

Phone: (682) 703-3747 **\*New Direct Number**  
E-mail: [sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov)  
Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh> (**NEW link!!**)

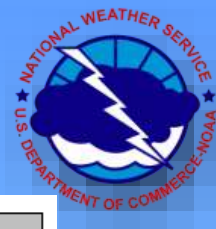
**facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/NWSSouthern>

**twitter**

@NWS\_Southern\_US [https://twitter.com/NWS\\_Southern\\_US](https://twitter.com/NWS_Southern_US)

The criteria for the color codes in our briefings is below, please provide any feedback to [sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov).



Weather "Threat" Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	<b>Very Common</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees</li> <li>Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX</li> </ul>
Yellow	<b>Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible</li> <li>Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1" hail</li> </ul>
Orange	<b>Uncommon – A Few Times a Year</b> Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely</li> <li>Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail</li> <li>Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected</li> </ul>
Red	<b>Rare – Once every 1-5 Years</b> Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days</li> <li>Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail</li> <li>Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue</li> </ul>
Purple	<b>Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years</b> Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow</li> <li>Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms</li> </ul>